

**Town of Sheffield
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
October 12, 2021
7:00 PM**

Commission Members Present: Don Ward, Chairman
Ted Pitman
Rene Wood

Members absent: Arthur Batacchi, Jr.

Others Present: Lori Neil, Administrative Assistant
Members of the Public

Chairman Ward called the Conservation Commission meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

1. Public Hearing on a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA), filed by the Town of Sheffield for property located at 422 Berkshire School Road, in accordance with the Provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 131, sec. 40. The applicant is seeking approval to construct and occupy a new highway garage with buildings, well and septic. This request was presented by Jackson Alberti of Fore Sight Land Services who discussed the wetlands resource area delineations at the site, which was completed and presented on the site-plan with his findings that the proposed site was outside the 100 ‘ buffer zone of the defined wetland resources. An overview of the site-plan was given to put his work into context. He also mentioned a man-made ditch that follows the BVW to an extent. A National Heritage letter from Misty Ann Marold was received dated July 14, 2021. The Board requested a soil analysis based on hydrology, vegetation and hydric soil before making a determination. The request consists of six (6) soil samples from the site, outside the buffer zone, along the 3 transits sketched by Chairman Ward. J. Alberti will bring the results back on October 25th, 2021 at the next Conservation Commission meeting. **R. Wood made a motion to continue this hearing to the next meeting on 10/25/21. T. Pitman seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

2. Public Hearing: The Sheffield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall in the first floor conference room, on October 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm regarding a Notice of Intent (NOI) Application filed by the Sheffield Volunteer Fire Department in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 131, Sec. 40. The proposed project is to enable the maintenance repair and replacement of 23 existing dry hydrants. The Board reviewed the application. M. Mitsoff pointed out, five or six of the dry hydrants are located in National Heritage of Endangered Species Program (NHESP). **R. Wood made a motion to accept the Notice of Intent with two conditions; 1.) that no action be taken on the dry hydrants in NHESP area until the Commission has heard back from them, and 2.) Inform the Commission of what the constructive actions are prior to any work started. T. Pitman seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

R. Wood made a motion to close the public hearing of the Notice of Intent filed by the Sheffield Fire Department. D. Ward seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

3. Discussion/Possible Action regarding Enforcement Order for 1152 Barnum Street:

There was a site visit at this property earlier today which T. Pitman, D. Ward and R. Wood attended with Jackson Alberti representing the owner. Chairman Ward stated after attending the site visit, the Enforcement Order is ready to be resolved. The work completed is in compliance with the plans. **R. Wood made a motion to send a letter to Turners with a copy to ForeSight Land Services that the Conservation Commission is lifting the Enforcement Order, however, requiring the removal of the straw waddles and a report letter sent to Town Hall next summer. T. Pitman seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

4. Discussion/Possible Action regarding Enforcement Order for 854 and 864 South Undermountain Road:

J. Alberti spoke on behalf of Casey Rothstein, informing the Commission that an Notice of Intent will be submitted and hopefully be on the next agenda.

5.) Discussion/Possible Action regarding Enforcement Order for 1448 South Undermountain Road:

Chairman Ward and the Board reviewed the status report on the property, which Emily Stockman, the Commission's consultant, had provided.

6. Commission Member Items: T. Pitman mentioned he has two events he will be attending at Race Brook Lodge and wondered if there was a form to complete regarding conflict of interest. R. Wood will email T. Pitman the form.

T. Pitman mentioned he had received a complaint regarding a County Road resident removing vegetation near the brook. An email or letter will be written to the owner if it is substantial, an Enforcement Order may be required. Chairman Ward asked T. Pitman to look at the site and if enforceable, let L. Neil know to send to Commission.

Chairman Ward mentioned a complaint he had received regarding Canna Provisions on Rte 7.

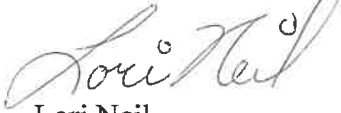
7.) Approval of Draft Minutes from September 27, 2021. D. Ward made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by T. Pitman. Motion passed, 3-0.

8. Public Inquires: None

9. Adjournment.

D. Ward made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by R. Wood and approved by a 3-0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori Neil".

Lori Neil
Administrative Assistant

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

- 10-12-21 Meeting Agenda
- Request for Determination of Applicability, (RDA) – 422 Berkshire School Rd. – Town Garage
- Wetland Resource Area Delineation Report from ForeSight Land Services regarding 422 Berkshire School Road
- Notice of Intent, (NOI) – Sheffield Volunteer Fire Dept. – 23 Dry Hydrants
- Memo from Consultant, Emily Stockman regarding 1448 S. Undermountain Road
- Draft Minutes from 9/27/21
- Attendee Sign in Sheet